

In re Patent Application of:  
DUESTERBERG ET AL.  
Serial No. 10/727,735  
Filed: 12/04/2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

16. (currently amended) An optical fiber pigtail assembly as defined in claim 8 comprising:

- a) a laser disposed within a housing; and,
- b) an optical fiber pigtail comprised of an optical fiber disposed within an opening of said housing, said optical fiber pigtail having an end for coupling light there into from the laser diode, the optical fiber pigtail having a first region about the end that is metallized and soldered fixedly with respect to said housing, the optical fiber pigtail having a second metallized region spaced from the first region by an other region wherein the second region is soldered to the housing about the opening to provide a seal therewith, said other region being absent of metal to lessen heating that may otherwise occur in the presence of a high intensity light from the laser passing therethrough, wherein the first metallized region along an optical axis of the fiber pigtail is of length  $L_1$  and wherein no more than 0.5 mm of length of the first metallized region on either side of a solder joint is unsoldered.

17. (currently amended) An optical fiber pigtail assembly as defined in claim 16 wherein a portion of the first region soldered to one or more solder pads has an unsoldered metallized portion extending from the solder and wherein the unsoldered metallized portion is less or equal to 0.5mm, and wherein any unsoldered metallized the second metallized region

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along the optical axis of the fiber pigtail is of length  $L_2$  and  
wherein no more than 0.5 mm of length of the second metallized  
region on either side of a solder joint is unsoldered.

Claims 18-21 (cancelled).